Disability discourses on social networks: the case of the withdrawal of pensions in Argentina

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Abstract:

In June 2017, Argentina's national government began to reduce the number of 'beneficiaries' of disability allowances. This generated a debate in the digital public sphere in which political actors.

Considering this occurrences, This paper aims to analyses, from a critical and qualitative approach,

the discourses that were constructed and circulated regarding this measure on the social network Facebook, in order to characterize the models of disability pre-sent in them, the relationships with other discourses and the discursive strategies used to base or search for the adherence to different political positions. In relation to the production of the data, documentary research was used, focusing on publi-cations and comments on the social network from an intentional sampling.

In general terms, it was noted that the different political positions reproduced dis-courses of the dispensation model and rehabilitating

medical model. This defined to the disability as an illness, handicap, social burden, and an individual problem, at the same time that they were woven into discourses of the neo liberalism and eugenics. Also were found Discourses of the social model that defined the group of people with disabilities as human rights holders, but these were produced by the group itself. As relevant discursive strategies, persuasion and accusation-justification were deployed, mostly using the construction of moral evaluations about the actors and actions.

Keywords: discourse analysis; disability; social model; rehabilitating medical model; social networks.